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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

23 October 1950

DAILY KOREAN SUMMARY

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Date: 16/2/79 By: 023I. Military SituationHighlights

UN forces continued to advance in North Korea. US I Corps elements have reached the Chongchon River. Major advances were made in the central area of North Korea by the ROK II Corps. On the east coast, elements of the ROK I Corps overcame scattered enemy resistance to reach the vicinity of Pukchong, northeast of Hamhung.

Ground

The US I Corps continued mopping up operations between the Taedong and Chongchon Rivers. The UK 27th Brigade reached the Chongchon River after taking the city of Anju. The US 187th Airborne Regiment maintained the security of the Sukchon-Sunchon area and repulsed an attempt by several hundred surrounded enemy troops to break out from the area. The ROK I Division advanced northward unopposed to the town of Kunu-ri. The ROK 6th and 8th Divisions made significant gains in their drive toward Huichon, with elements nearing Yongbyon and Hwasan. On the east coast, the ROK Capital Division continued its northward advance; leading elements reached the outskirts of Pukchong.

Navy

UN naval craft continued mine-sweeping operations in the Wonsan area. Naval aircraft from carriers off the west coast hit targets in the Pakchon and Chongju areas.

Air

Despite the diminishing enemy target area, UN air forces flew 443 effective sorties, including 193 combat. Many highways were

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observed free of traffic. Leaflets blaming the plight of the North Koreans on their irresponsible leaders were dropped on ten enemy-held cities.

II. General Situation

President Rhee has assured US Embassy personnel in Seoul that his government is determined to cooperate with the United Nations in Korea. Rhee adds, however, that his government should not be expected to act completely in accord with decisions of the UN Interim Committee on Korea if the Republic of Korea as an interested party is not previously consulted in formation of Committee decisions. Rhee also emphasized that he is opposed to any military government in North Korea or the use by UN military authorities of Communists, former Communists, and former Communist government machinery for temporary rule of North Korea.

In an economic report from the Seoul area, Ambassador Muccio reports that trains are operating from Pusan through Seoul to Wonsan (North Korea). The electric power situation in the Seoul area has improved somewhat with the repair of a sub-station and the recovery of a vital generator part for the Chongpyong hydro-electric plant.

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